

4. (Amended One Time) A method for processing an input speech signal during presentation of an output audio signal, the method comprising steps of:

B2 detecting the input speech signal;
determining an identification corresponding to the output audio signal; and
providing the identification to establish a context in responding to the input speech signal.

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully traverses and request reconsideration.

Claims 1-55 stand finally rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Nguyen.

Nguyen is directed to a voice recognition system that includes a barge-in detector for determining the presence of an user input signal at the same time an output audio signal (prompt signal) is being emitted by the system (col. 4 lines 46-49). The system provides an output audio signal to a telephone user (col. 4 lines 10-14). An echo canceller is used to remove most of the output audio signal that is fed back into system by the telephone (col. 4 lines 26-29). After echo cancellation a residue of the output audio signal remains in the signal fed from the telephone to the system (col. 4 lines 35-38). The barge-in detector has elements for sampling and calculating the energy of the output audio signal sent to the telephone and the signal received from the telephone (col. 4 lines 53-56 and col. 5 lines 60-63). These calculated energies are used to calculate an attenuation factor by which the output audio signal is attenuated after it is fed back by the telephone and passed through the echo canceller (col. 4 lines 53-59). The attenuation factor is used to estimate a replica signal which is an estimate of the portion of the signal received back from the telephone that is not part of the user input signal (col. 5 lines 57-63). The replica signal is compared to the signal received from the telephone to detect the presence of the user input signal (col.6 lines 47-50). When the user input signal is detected, the speech recognition unit, which is connected directly to the barge-in detector, is turned on and possibly the output audio signal is turned off. (col. 4 lines 63-67, FIG. 1).